

THE STATUS OF *OLLIA PARVELLA* DYAR: REDESCRIPTION OF IT IN A NEW GENUS (PYRALIDAE)

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ABSTRACT. *Ollia parvella* was described from females only. The discovery of a few males shows that it is not a Peorine but a Phycitine and that it belongs in a new genus: *Welderella*.

When Shaffer (1968) revised the North American Anerastiinae (Auctorum), he grouped the majority of the species in the subfamily Peoriinae and returned most of the remaining ones to the Phycitinae. A few genera and species remained unplaced and were listed as such at the end of his revision. Blanchard and Ferguson (1975) included three of these unplaced species in the new phycitine genus *Rostrolaetilia* together with seven new species which were described in the same paper.

Ollia parvella Dyar is another species which Shaffer could not place, in this case because no male was available. My wife and I took six specimens of this species (4 males and 2 females) 3 and 5 July 1975 at the Welder Wildlife Foundation Refuge. Through the courtesy of Dr. D. C. Ferguson I was able to borrow from the National Museum two paratypes of the six females which constitute the type series. The comparison of the genitalia of one of my females (slide A.B. 3879) with those of one paratype (slide U.S.N.M. 52945) leaves no doubt that my specimens are conspecific.

As Shaffer had suspected, an examination of the male genitalia shows that this species is a Phycitine, although nothing closely related is included in Heinrich's revision of this subfamily (1956). *Ollia* is a synonym of *Peoria*, not a Phycitine genus. Obviously a new genus is needed.

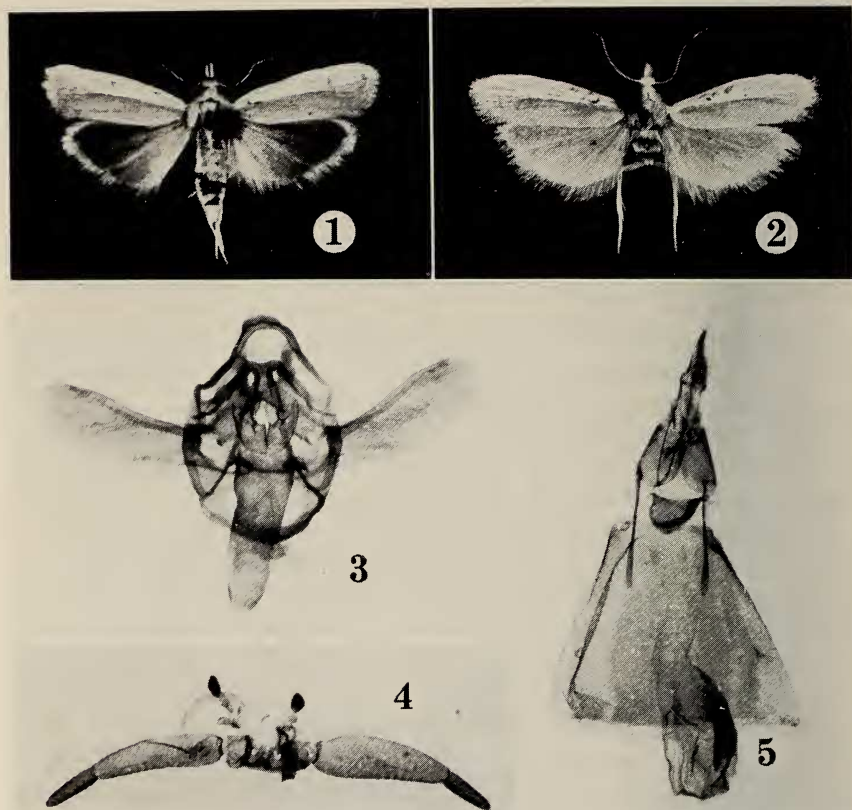
Welderella A. Blanchard, new genus

Type species: *Ollia parvella* Dyar (Figs. 1, 2, 4, 6).

Labial palpi porrect, downcurved, extending over three times eye diameter beyond front, loosely scaled; from beneath seen to be in contact with each other for nearly all their length; second segment two and a half times longer than the third. Maxillary palpi short, squamous. Antennae simple. No ocelli.

Forewing smooth, broadest at two thirds distance from base to apex; apex and tornus rounded. Cell about two thirds length of wing. Venation somewhat variable, 10 or 11 veins: R_3 , R_4 and R_5 normally united, but two specimens show on one wing R_5 separating from R_{3+4} as a faint spur; M_2 and M_3 stalked for about two fifths their length; Cu_1 from lower outer angle of cell; Cu_2 from near the angle.

Hind wing: length of cell ill defined (discocellular vein obsolete) but apparently slightly longer than half the length of the wing; Sc and Rs long stalked, Sc separates from Rs as short spur going to costa, Rs continues to near apex; M_1 straight to

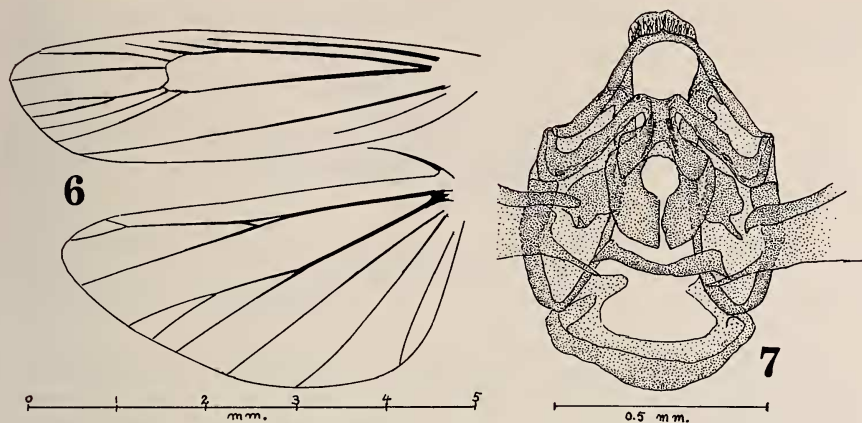


Figs. 1-5. *Welderella parvella*: 1, male; 2, female; 3, male genitalia; 4, denuded labial and maxillary palpi, showing rudimentary tongue; 5, female genitalia.

outer margin; M_2 absent; M_3 and Cu_1 stalked for about half their length; Cu_2 in almost exact prolongation of cubitus.

Male genitalia (Figs. 3, 7): Uncus triangular; apex produced, rounded, covered with bristles. Gnathos stout, with very large flanged apical processes; the lobes fusing posteriorly. Aedeagus smooth, moderately stout, about three times as long as maximum width, vesica without cornuti. Tegumen with strong supporting structure forming on each side a wide U, with one branch supporting the gnathos and the other the dorsal processes of the uncus. Vinculum mostly membranous, supported in part by the tegumen and the shallow, wide, well sclerotized saccus. Transtilla incomplete, represented by a pair of irregularly shaped plates. Juxta with anterior margin heavily sclerotized. Valves simple, without clasper; sacculus narrow and short.

Female genitalia (Fig. 5): bursa and ductus bursae membranous; ductus bursae rather wide, broadening progressively into pear shaped bursa; signum well sclerotized, longitudinally infolded; some weak scobinations around it; ductus seminalis from left side of signum; genital opening wide, funnel shaped, sclerotized and scobinate ventrally.



Figs. 6, 7. *Welderella parvella*: 6, venation; 7, enlarged part of male genitalia.

This genus shares characters with two widely separate groups of Phycitina genera. The male genitalia suggest that it should go near *Laetilia*: the unculus, the gnathos, the transtilla are quite similar, but the complete absence of ocelli and the longitudinal wing pattern point to a placement near *Bandera* and *Tampa*.

I take great pleasure in naming this new genus for the Welder Wildlife Foundation, for its staff, whom I have always found ready to help me in every way and for its generous founders, the late Rob Welder and his wife Bessie Welder.

Welderella parvella (Dyar)

Dyar, 1906, p. 31. Barnes & McDunnough, 1917, p. 149. McDunnough, 1939, p. 36. Kimball, 1965, p. 250. Shaffer, 1968, p. 89.

The original description reads: "Costal half of fore wing white with slight darker lines on the veins toward apex. Inner half pale ochreous, shading to gray next to white part. Hind wing whitish." The Welder Wildlife Refuge females match this description, but the hind wing of the male is whitish only in the one third of it along the inner margin; the other two thirds are blackish gray.

Wing expanse: males 12.5–14 mm., females 13–15.5 mm.

Type data: I have not examined the holotype, a female from Brownsville, Texas, June 3 (?), 1904, H.S. Barber, U.S.N.M. type No. 9103; genitalia slide No. 10, Carl Heinrich, Dec. 20, 1932.

Specimens examined: Brownsville, Texas, 31 May 1904, 1 ♀; 8 June 1904, 1 ♀; (Slide U.S.N.M. No. 52945), both collected by H.S. Barber. Welder Wildlife Foundation Refuge, 3 July 1975, 2 ♂♂ (slides A.B. 3894, 3854, 3890; these last two slides are all that remains of one of these males), 5 July 1975, 2 ♂♂,

2 ♀♀ (♂ slide A.B. 3857, ♀ slide A.B. 3879), all collected by A. & M. E. Blanchard.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am indebted to Dr. D. C. Ferguson for arranging the loan of two female paratypes from the National Museum collection and to Dr. J. C. Shaffer for revising the manuscript.

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